

## **Region VI ICC**

Minutes for March 20, 2006

### **Present**

Pam Whaley  
Elaine Fischer  
Linda Heinrich  
Connie Lillejord  
Cindi Richman  
Rhoda Young  
Jolene Sjostrum  
Dawn Ihry  
Deb Balsdon  
Keith Gustafson  
Theresa Will  
Rose Greer  
Melissa Gleason

### **Report from Core Group**

1. Information was shared regarding the planned Infant Development transition. Keith Gustafson, Northern Plains Special Education Director, stated the proposed transition date has been moved back to April 1, 2006. As of July 1, 2006 the plan is for Fargo, Grand Forks, Devils Lake, and Jamestown Infant Development programs to all be part of the Kids Kartel with Mr. Gustafson as the Director.
2. The Experienced Parent position is close to being filled. Pam Whaley has expressed an interest in providing up to 10 hours a week of parent support. The option of contracting for veteran parent support in each special Education Unit will be explored.
3. Deb reported the Federal Government will no longer be evaluating the five Quality Improvement Plan categories but will instead be evaluating 14 prime indicators. Additional information on these indicators will be coming.

## 2005 Action Plan

### I Child Find/Public Awareness

I-2:

2. Contact agencies that work with children and families to encourage collaboration in offering a Right Track screening for all children less than 3 years of age. Include childcare providers & childcare associations.	Right Track, Infant Development, Case Management	January 2004 Partially Completed Completed March 2005
--	--	---

**Mark as completed**

I-3:

3. Collaborate with other agencies to provide information to migrant, mobile, and homeless families about the importance of Early Intervention screening.	Infant Development, Case Management	2005 Completed January 2006
---	--	-----------------------------------

**Mark as completed**

I-4:

4. Collaborate with other agencies to develop an education plan regarding the importance of early intervention. (College parents, colonies, prisons, home schools, health professionals, child care providers, social workers, adoptive and foster parents)	Infant Development, Case Management	2004 Partially completed 2005
---	--	-------------------------------------

**Rose reported on the Medical Home model. She stated the medical home by definition could include a significant number of families. It was suggested a single sheet of resources would be helpful.**

**Melissa reported on Home Schooling. She stated there are several families home schooling for part or all of their child's education. Cindi will make contact with the local Home Schooling Coordinator to share information regarding Right Track screenings. Rhoda will find out the name of the State Home School Coordinator.**

## ***Social Workers: Continue***

1-5:

5. Develop and implement a system to identify children who, at their preschool screening, have a primary language disability.	Region VI Special Education Directors	<del>2004</del> 2005 Partially met
---	---------------------------------------	--

**The draft letter to DD, DPI, and the State ICC was distributed. Deb reported that each Special Education Unit in the State received funding for Child Find Activities. Each Unit received an amount based upon their request so not all Units receive the same amount of financial support. No State Child Find Campaign is promoted by DPI. This issue will be discussed at future meetings.**

## **II. EI Services in Natural Environments**

II-1:

1. Educate families, staff, therapists, childcare providers and family support service providers about natural environment.	Region VI Natural Environment Team	<del>2004</del> 2005 In process
---	------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

***II-2:***

2. Identify key staff to attend: Supervise and Supporting Natural Learning Opportunities Training.	Region VI ICC	<del>2004</del> 2005
--	---------------	-------------------------

**First steps:**

**Additional training on Natural Learning Opportunities will be provided to new Infant Development Staff. Committee was made aware of and invited to participate in the National Early Childhood Technical Center training sponsored by OSEP . The web-based calls are held the second Monday of each month.**

## **II-6**

6. Gather statistics on the number of children traveling and the number of miles traveled to get direct therapy provided at a non Natural Environment location.	Infant Development, Case Management and Region VI ICC	2005
---	---	------

**UND School of Medicine is trying to get grant money to do the study. ACCC is looking into the technology to be able to try it. Telemedicine is currently on hold.**

## **II-7**

7. Organize Focus groups including both professionals and parents to review data and develop plans for concerns 2 and 3.	CSCC	2005
--	------	------

**(Windshield time for therapists, available Respite Care in rural areas) not discussed**

## **III Family Centered System of Care**

### **III-3**

3. Develop a process to increase parent understanding/confidence in participating in the IFSP process utilizing experienced parent(s) and resources from Case Management.	Infant Development, Case Management and Regional ICC	June 2005
---	--	-----------

**Elaine reported the training on Natural Environments provides a mechanism for parents to be more involved and to direct services. Information regarding current Intake process will be shared at a future meeting. Continue to recruit Experienced Parent. Rhoda/ Linda/ Pam will explore possibility of regional Experienced Parent connected to each Special Education Unit.**

#### ***IV-1***

1. Develop focus groups to: A. Get input from preschool parents on their perception of the transition process. B. Get input from Special Ed. Directors and Coordinators on their perception of the transition process.	CSCC and Family to Family	A. 2003 B. 2003 Completed Evaluate in 2005
--	---------------------------	--

**1. Discussion was held regarding a joint follow up training regarding transition. The training would be scheduled for after the release of the new transition guidelines. Rhoda will check with other Special Education Directors to determine their interest.**

#### ***IV-2***

2. Develop Training sessions for families on: A. Knowing what to expect of the transition process. B. Special equipment purchasing. C. Child/Family rights in the school system. D. IEPs (what are they, how to make	Infant Development, Case Management, Experienced Parent(s), and Special Education Directors and Coordinators	2004 2005
--	---	--------------

them effective) E. Train parents on option 504. F. Any other concerns that may come up in the focus group.		
---	--	--

**1. Will discuss after State's interpretation of new IDEA regulations are available in January 2006.**

### ***IV-3***

3. Develop training sessions for professionals on: A. Making the transition process from Infant Development to Special Ed. more compatible. B. Any other concern that come up in the focus group.	Infant Development, Case Management	2004 Completed Evaluate in 2005
--	--	---------------------------------------

**RICC was advised regarding upcoming training opportunities.**

**Next meeting is May 15, 2006 at 11:30 Core Team meets at 10:30. Focus of discussion will be General Supervision. All RICC members are invited to participate.**